

Curriculum Overview

Year 10 - Religious Education 2021-2022



Rationale for Year 10 Religious Education

Religious Studies Edexcel Specification A (full course)

This specification enables our students to focus predominantly on learning Catholic Beliefs, Teachings and Practices, whilst developing an in-depth understanding of the academic discipline of Theology. The course allows students to delve deeper into the Roman Catholic faith, studying such topics as the Trinity, Apostolic Tradition, Papal Authority, the Sacraments, Catholic Social Teaching and Religious Art.

Area of Study 2 – Judaism

The course also comprises study of a second Abrahamic religion: Judaism, discerning theological concepts such as the nature of the Almighty, Covenant, Messiah and Sanctity of Life. This course is approved by Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, mapped specifically to the Catholic Directory for Education and brings to life the foundations of faith and practice. This will be assessed in Paper 2 Edexcel examination (50-minute paper, 51 marks, 25% of final exam).

What will students learn and why?

Area of Study 1 – Catholic Christianity Term 1, 2, 3 & 4

This area of study comprises an in depth exploration of Catholic Christianity as a lived religion in the United Kingdom and throughout the world. There are four sections: Beliefs and Teachings; Practices; Sources of Wisdom and Authority; Forms of Expression and Ways of Life. Students are expected to study Catholic Christianity within the context of the wider British society, the religious traditions of which are, in the main, Christian. Students should compare and contrast the areas of belief and practice within Catholic Christianity with wider Christian perspectives as outlined in the content below: Beliefs about the afterlife and their significance (1.8)* and the practice and significance of worship (2.2)*.

Students will recognise that Catholic Christianity is one of the many religious traditions in Great Britain. This knowledge will be applied throughout the assessment of the specified content. Students will also recognise that within Catholic Christianity, there may be more than one perspective in the way beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed. Common and divergent views within the wider Christian tradition in the way beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed should be included throughout, including reference to Orthodox, Protestant and other Christian traditions. The significance and importance of the various beliefs and practices to Catholics today, will be explored throughout the four sections.

Area of Study 2 – Judaism Term 5 & 6

This area of study comprises an in depth exploration of Judaism as a lived religion in the United Kingdom and throughout the world.

There are two sections: Beliefs and Teachings and Practices. Students will study Judaism within the context of the wider British society. Students will compare and contrast two areas of belief and practice within Christianity and Judaism: Beliefs about the afterlife and their significance (1.8)* and the practice and significance of worship (2.4)*.

How will students learn?

The specification is structured according to the requirements of the Catholic Directory for Education, which seeks: to address the human search for meaning; God's initiative in Revelation who comes to meet us; and our response of faith. Consequently, the process is threefold: Research, Revelation, and Response. This process provides a methodology and structure for learning and teaching. It engages pupils in the continuing journey of learning about and learning from the Catholic vision and understanding of life, irrespective of their own beliefs. Students will build on prior knowledge on their Religious Education learning journey from KS3.

How will students be assessed?

Assessment will be present throughout each topic in the format of: low stakes quizzes at the beginning of every lesson and practice exam questions both set in class and for homework. In addition to this, students will take an end of topic assessment which will be a past exam paper in September of term 1, based on Catholic Beliefs. They will be assessed with a past exam paper at the end of each unit studied in Year 10.

A mock exam will be completed in the summer term of Year 10, based on the four Catholic Christianity topics studied. The rationale is to support students in their revision of GCSE topics, experience of exam conditions, improving knowledge and skills, interleaving, making accurate links and timing for summer external exams.

What is the aim for learners by the end of the year in comparison to the previous year?

At the end of Year 10, students should be able to confidently demonstrate accurate knowledge of theological concepts relevant to Catholicism and apply them to structured examination questions, which require high order skills such as interpretation, analysis and evaluation. At the end of KS4, the department aims to have provided students with solid foundational knowledge within the realms of Theology and Philosophy of Religion. As religiously literate scholars, KS4 students should be able to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of Catholic doctrines and dogmas and the fulfilment of God's revelation through the person of Jesus Christ. The Christian message influences the way in which the origins of the world, the sense of history, the basis of ethical values, the function of religion in culture, the destiny of the human person, and human relationship with nature, are understood.